



National Mining Association
Foundation for America's Future

Mr. Jere Glover
Chief Counsel for Advocacy
U.S. Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20416

June 19, 2000

Re: Advocacy's Significant Impact on Small Miners

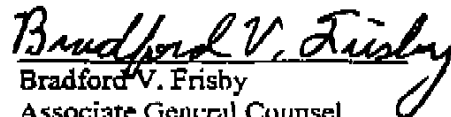
Dear Mr. Glover,

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for your hard work as the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration (SBA). Advocacy fights for the rights of small mining companies by insisting that Federal agencies follow Congressional mandates in the Regulatory Flexibility Act. For example, after contacting the Labor Department and supplying them with information showing that their proposed black lung regulations violate the RFA, the Department performed a regulatory flexibility analysis, which demonstrated that the proposal will significantly harm small businesses.

In *Northwest Mining Association v. Babbitt*, Advocacy filed a friend-of-the-court brief explaining how the Bureau of Land Management's bonding regulations violated the RFA. The Federal court agreed with your arguments, and ordered the regulations sent back to BLM with instructions to comply with the law. Advocacy doesn't quit, either. When BLM proposed comprehensive rules (including provisions on bonding) in May 1999, Advocacy followed up its earlier efforts with extensive comments and economic analysis to the agency. Advocacy's comments explain why BLM's own data and analysis prove that the rules will harm small businesses.

These examples show how Advocacy makes a difference in the everyday lives of thousands of small miners who still hold high-paying jobs because of your tireless efforts. I hope that Congress will do its part to fully support Advocacy, and enable it to continue its excellent work protecting small businesses across the nation.

Sincerely,


Bradford V. Frisby
Associate General Counsel
National Mining Association